GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

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HARDWARE MAKES THE BEDOUIN BELLE MORE BEAUTIFUL

With rings on her fingers and coins on her nose, she shall have jingling wherever she goes. As indigo is the somber color of her usual dress, the Bedouin girl brightens it up with gay jewelry. Coins and beads cover her veil. Several camels' worth of silver may have gone into her dozen bracelets. On her belt she fills any gaps between coins with old buttons. For her hair to show, it must project, so she knots her glossy braids on her forehead. This is the style among Bedouins between the Sinai Peninsula and southern Palestine, one of Britain's mandates (Bulletin No. 2).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Russia's Rich Oil Reserves, Found from Volga to Pacific

AS GERMAN troops draw nearer the Caucasus regions, the question arises concerning what reserve oil supplies Russia has, should she be forced to abandon or destroy the rich petroleum fields of this area.

The Soviet Union ranks after the United States as the second largest source of oil in the world. In 1940, production in the U.S.S.R. reached a total of nearly 217,000,000 barrels.

Caucasus Monopoly Has Been Lessened

According to 1940 estimates, between 80 and 90 per cent of Soviet Russia's entire oil output came from deposits in the Caucasus, that mountainous land barrier that separates the Black Sea and the Caspian.

More than 160,000,000 barrels were recovered there from the famous Baku fields of the Transcaucasus region on the southeast coast (illustration, next page). In addition, 28,000,000 barrels were produced in the North Caucasus in the oil fields near Maikop and Grozny. The Maikop wells are less than 180 airline miles from the shores of the embattled Crimea.

The proportion of Russia's petroleum supply from the Caucasus isthmus, however, should be considered in the light of events of 1941. During the past year, reports indicate, the Soviet Union has intensified its efforts to increase oil supplies from fields that are still far from the present battle lines.

Even before the German invasion of Soviet Russia, the near monopoly on petroleum production long held by the Caucasus fields was beginning to lessen. In Tsarist days, it is estimated, some 97 per cent of Russian oil came from Baku and other Caucasus sources.

By 1939, a number of new deposits had been opened to development, with a geographic range from the Arctic Ocean to the southeast shores of the Caspian Sea, from the Volga to the Pacific.

Oil a Part of Ural Wealth

In 1929, the first important oil find of the Urals was made at Chusovaya Gorodki, in the central reaches of that long and minerals-rich mountain chain.

Three years later a new development opened up on the Oukhta River, near the Arctic Circle in northeast European Russia. It became the world's northernmost oil station.

Actively producing oil fields now include those along the eastern and western flanks of the Urals. Others extend to the banks of the Volga and beyond. One reported new field, at Ivanovo, west of the Volga, is not far from Moscow.

The output of the Volga-Ural region, which Soviet authorities had declared would in time turn into a "second Baku," was estimated in 1938 at more than six million barrels of petroleum. Near all of these oil centers, new roads and towns have been built, and mechanized industries set up.

East of the lower Ural River, on the north shores of the Caspian Sea, are the productive Emba fields, linked with the industrial city of Orsk in the southern Urals by a pipe line more than 400 miles long.

Other Caspian developments are found to the south, in the Turkmen Soviet Republic, where some of the wells are estimated to have gushed forth nearly two million barrels of oil.

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Photograph by Lawrence Copley Thaw

HIS LAND BECAME A MANDATE AFTER HE FOUGHT GERMANS WITH TROOPS SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS OUT OF DATE

Giant Bouba Jamaha, six-and-a-half-foot Lamido or tribal ruler over the native kingdom of Reï Bouba in the Cameroons, joined the Allies in 1914 to drive Germany out of Africa. He fought with the same sort of obsolete army he has today, armed with hand-me-down chain mail, helmets, swords, and bows and arrows left over from Crusades fighting at least 700 years ago. His archers use the longbow of pre-gunpowder days, and arrows tipped with iron. His infantry, in addition to spears, carry shields of rhinoceros hide adorned with dangling triangles of iron (left). Palace slaves (right) must strip to the waist before crawling into his presence. In a sedan chair on the heads of slaves, he appears to his subjects several times a year, veiled in imitation of Tuareg warriors in the Sahara to the north (Bulletin No. 2).

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The Fate of Mandates After 20 Years

HOW is the British occupation of Syria affecting the mandate under which France has supervised that eastern Mediterranean land for two decades? And how are the other mandates, set up after the 1914-18 World War, faring amid the current international strife?

The status of only two mandates—Syria and her large eastern neighbor, Iraq—has undergone marked change since their establishment.

Iraq was deemed capable of governing itself and became an independent Arab state, with Great Britain's mandate ending in 1932. The future of Syria (known officially as the Levant States) still is uncertain. The British and Free French have indicated that they later would offer independence to Syria, but the Vichy Government of France has announced that it did not regard its defeat in Syria as terminating its mandate rights. Both Iraq and Syria are factors in the struggle for oil—the former as a source of petroleum, the latter as a channel through which Iraq's oil reaches the Mediterranean by pipe line.

15,000,000 People under "Foster Parent" Government

At the Peace Conference following the World War, a dozen mandated territories were carved from the colonies and dependencies of Germany and Turkey, instead of allowing the victorious Allies to annex those areas outright. More than 15,000,000 people and territory of about a million and a quarter square miles were placed under this new system of "foster parent" governments. The British Empire, France, Japan, and Belgium were the nations given supervision of the various conquered regions. Their rights and duties were carefully outlined, and they were directed to make periodic reports to the League of Nations.

Syria and Iraq were the two largest mandates created in the Near East from parts of the Turkish Empire. Other Turkish territory directly south of Syria was divided into Palestine (illustration, cover) and Trans-Jordan and placed under British mandate.

All the other mandated areas had been German colonies in Africa and the Pacific. The African regions were apportioned among three countries. Togoland, on the west coast, was divided between Britain and France, as were the Cameroons (illustration, inside cover), just south of the continent's big hump. The Ruanda-Urundi territory went to Belgium for supervision. Tanganyika, formerly German East Africa, was placed under British control, and South-West Africa was assigned to the Union of South Africa, a British Dominion.

Present War Causes Government Splits

When separate refugee governments were set up in London for Nazi-occupied countries, the mandates had to decide between the two government factions. The portion of the Cameroons under mandate to France went over voluntarily to the Free French movement late in the summer of 1940. Ruanda-Urundi, which adjoins the Belgian Congo, is being administered by the Belgian Government-in-exile, along with the latter big colony.

In the Pacific, the former German territory on the island of New Guinea (illustration, next page), plus near-by smaller German islands, is under mandate to Australia. Western Samoa is supervised by New Zealand, another British Dominion. The tiny island of Nauru, valued solely for phosphate deposits, is under an Australian commissioner.

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In the heart of Soviet Central Asia, still other working oil fields are found in the remote and once backward territories of Kazak, Uzbek, Tadzhik, and Kirghiz. The conveniently located city of Fergana, one of the two leading oases of Uzbekistan, holds one of the largest oil refineries of the Soviet Union.

Far East Reserves in Pacific

The Russians also have petroleum reserves in the Far East, notably on Kamchatka Peninsula and Sakhalin Island. The latter island, owned jointly with Japan, accounted for about four million barrels of oil in 1940. Most of the oil deposits are found on the Russian side of the line, but the Soviet government allows the Japanese to operate many of the Russian fields under special concessions, as well as to purchase oil supplies recovered from Russian-operated wells. The present concessions expire in December, 1941.

Note: Oil fields and oil pipe lines of the European U.S.S.R. are shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of Europe and the Near East, published as a supplement to the April, 1940, *National Geographic Magazine.*

For further information about the subject and Russia in general, see "Russia of the Hour," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1926.

See also in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS of October 6, 1941, "Soviet Union, Giant Among Nations"; and in the March 9, 1936, issue, "Where Does the World Get Its Oil?"

Bulletin No. 1, December 8, 1941.

Photograph by Maynard Owen Williams

WHERE FLAMES ONCE MADE THE FIRE WORSHIPPER PRAY, THEY NOW MAKE THE MODERN WORKMAN GROAN

In spite of destructive fires and constant use since before history began, the oil fields of Russia show no signs of exhaustion. The richest area has been the Apsheron Peninsula projecting into the Caspian Sea eastward from Baku, and the shores of the Azerbaijan S. S. R. to the north and south. Baku, with the increased demand for oil to run the Soviet Union's machines, has about doubled its population since 1926 to become a city of some 810,000. One of the earlier workers attracted to the Baku fields was Joseph Stalin. Natural gas seeping from the oil deposits fed "eternal flames" over which fire-worshipping Persians built temples from the dawn of history until the 7th century A.D. But where Fire Worshippers prayed, the flames from burning oil in modern times make workmen groan at the waste of oil so vital in national defense. Baku oil is supposed to be high in anti-knock quality. This accidental fire photographed near Baku is so fierce that it is destroying the steel walls of the storage tank.

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Bohemia-Moravia in Central Europe's Industrial Mosaic

GERMAN authorities have declared a state of civil emergency in the "protectorate" of Bohemia-Moravia, where sabotage and demonstrations against Nazi rule have been mounting. This area, containing the bulk of the population and industries of the former Czechoslovak Republic, is especially valuable to Germany for its productive factories, doubly essential to the success of mechanized warfare.

Bohemia-Moravia comprises Czechoslovakia's share of the great industrial complex of Central Europe, a mass of mines and factories which holds a rank in world production second only to the great industrial areas of Great Britain and the United States. Stretching from northeastern France across Belgium and Germany into western Poland, it extends southward through Germany across this western section of Czechoslovakia.

Industries Started as Austrian Enterprises

Like the rest of the Central Europe industrial belt, Bohemia-Moravia contains a fortunate combination of ore and fuel to make the machinery of industry as well as the trains and trucks for transporting industry's products.

Bohemia and Moravia, once numbered among Czechoslovakia's four states, have been separated from the rest of the country and yoked together under German control since the Nazi occupation of the region in March, 1939. At that time, the combined population of the two sections amounted to nearly seven million. The total had been some three millions larger before the adjoining Sudetenland was ceded to Germany under the Munich agreement of September, 1938.

More than twice as big as Vermont, the oval of Bohemia-Moravia extends deeply toward the center of Germany. It contains what was considered before the present war to be Czechoslovakia's most fertile and productive farm land, and holds much of the rich mineral resources, such as coal, iron, copper, and lead. Together with useful clay and sand, these supplied the raw materials for manufacturing activities in the cities near by.

Noted for Guns, Steel, and Shoes

These western districts of the former Czech nation, as well as the Sudeten rim, once made up one of the chief industrial areas of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. When Czechoslovakia was formed during post-World War boundary changes, Austria's porcelain and glass, textile, paper, glove, and shoe industries fell within the new Central European state's frontiers. This Austrian heritage presented Czechoslovakia with a working nucleus from which later were developed specialty products and other wares famous in world markets.

The effects of the war and German occupation on the industrial life of Bohemia and Moravia are indicated from time to time in reports of disruption of the normal balance of import-export trade. One such dispatch said that the well-known Bata shoe factory at Zlin, in Moravia (illustration, next page), now is making only wooden shoes as a result of a leather shortage. This huge plant once turned out an estimated 170,000 pairs of shoes daily.

Prag (Praha or Prague), Brünn, Mährisch-Ostrau, and Kladno were all centers of industry under the Czech Government. The Czech capital at Prag, in Bohemia, and Brünn, in Moravia, were important iron and steel cities.

The famed "Bren" gun, held by some to be the world's best machine gun, was

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German islands north of the Equator were placed by the League of Nations under mandate to Japan, which withdrew from the League in 1938. They consist of the Marianas, Caroline, and Marshall Islands, spread over a large expanse of the Pacific east of the Philippines. Many are mere specks of land.

Note: The mandated territories can be located on the National Geographic Society's new Map of the World, which has just been issued as a supplement to the December, 1941, *National Geographic Magazine*, and the Map of Africa and the Map of Europe and the Near East. A price list for these maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters in Washington, D. C.

See the following articles in the *National Geographic Magazine* for further information: Syria and Iraq: "Bombs Over Bible Lands," August, 1941; "Change Comes to Bible Lands," December, 1938; "Archeology, the Mirror of the Ages," August, 1928.

Palestine and Trans-Jordan: "Canoeing Down the River Jordan," December, 1940; "Bedouin Life in Bible Lands," January, 1937; "Petra, Ancient Caravan Stronghold," February, 1935; "Changing Palestine," April, 1934; "Road of the Crusaders," December, 1933; "Crusader Castles of the Near East," March, 1931.

Tanganyika: "Wings Over Nature's Zoo in Africa," October, 1939; "Trans-Africa Safari," September, 1938.

The Cameroons: "The Mandate of Cameroun," February, 1931.

South-West Africa: "Keeping House for the Shepherds of the Sun," April, 1930; "Hunting an Observatory," October, 1926.

New Guinea: "Unknown New Guinea," March, 1941; "Into Primeval Papua by Seaplane," September, 1929.

Japanese-mandated islands: "Mysterious Micronesia," April 1, 1936.

Bulletin No. 2, December 8, 1941.

Photograph by Dr. E. W. Brandes

NEW GUINEA HAS AN UPHILL STRUGGLE AGAINST CROCODILES, EVEN DEAD ONES

Parts of backward New Guinea preserve living conditions that prevailed elsewhere in the vanished Stone Age. The native's chief weapons are an ax chipped from rock and an arrow tipped with the toenail of a cassowary, New Guinea's giant ostrich-like bird. One of the enemies against which he must protect his family is the crocodile that swims in the marshy rivers and menaces the frail native canoes. For hunting, tribesmen of New Guinea have invented a "crocodile caller." It is a carved wood cylinder one end of which they lower silently into the water, then pull out sharply; the cylinder makes a gurgle supposed to resemble the call of the big reptiles. When a crocodile comes to investigate the noise, the natives kill him. To haul one up the marshy bank over the ladder-like stairs of tied poles is a three-man job, and dangerous. Though apparently dead, a crocodile may have life enough to inflict some damage. The natives enjoy eating crocodile eggs.

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U. S. Troops in Surinam Guard Important Source of Bauxite

(This is the fourteenth of a series on the defense bases.)

BY SENDING troops to tropical Surinam (Dutch Guiana) on the mainland of South America, the United States has taken steps to guard its largest foreign source of bauxite, the ore used in making aluminum. The quickened pace of warplane manufacture has heightened the need for this lightweight metal everywhere.

Although France and Hungary were the largest peacetime producers of bauxite, Surinam and her South American neighbor, British Guiana, have greatly increased their output in the last two years. Together, those two countries contain the most productive mines in the Western Hemisphere.

Most Surinam Bauxite Mined by U. S. Company

In 1940, freighters carried more than 585,000 metric tons of Surinam bauxite to New Orleans, Mobile, and other United States ports. That was almost the entire supply from the Netherlands' South American colony. The United States itself mined only about 446,000 metric tons of the ore, with Arkansas leading.

Bauxite mining has given new life and importance to Surinam, which previously had been a sleepy land of savannas and jungles, Javanese and Hindu laborers, and primitive Bush Negroes. Situated on the northeast coast of South America, it lies between British Guiana to the west and French Guiana to the east.

Bauxite production has developed largely because the mines lie near navigable rivers—the Cottica, Pará, and Suriname Rivers. Railroads also have been built to some of the mining camps in the interior, which formerly could be reached only by water. The deposits lie near the surface, so that the ore is taken from open pits. The leading bauxite mining companies are branches of the Aluminum Company of America.

Gold Output Decreases as Bauxite Increases

The ore shipments recently have accounted for two-thirds of Surinam's exports. Sugar, bananas, rice, coffee, hardwoods, rum, and molasses are the other leading products. They come chiefly from the lowlands near the 240-mile Atlantic coast. Much of this area is below sea level and has to be diked and artificially drained. Gold once was the principal mineral product, but the accessible deposits have been quite thoroughly worked.

Almost five times as large as the Netherlands, Surinam is about the size of Arkansas, North Carolina, or Iowa. Its history is intertwined with that of the United States, for in 1667 the British traded the South American colony, which they then owned, for New Amsterdam, where New York City now stands. Sir Walter Raleigh once visited the region in search of El Dorado, fabled land of riches, but the Indians, heat, and swamps discouraged him and he turned back.

Paramaribo is a strangely polyglot port of about 55,000 inhabitants (illustration, next page). Side by side against a Dutch-provincial background live Javanese and Negroes, Carib Indians, Hindus, Chinese, Europeans, Latin and North Americans. Netherlanders in white duck clothing follow their European custom of riding their bicycles in family groups, father in the lead, followed by all the children, lending an Old World atmosphere to scenes of the tropics, where the characteristic touch is a "mammy" in a long, voluminous flowered dress.

In the jungles or "bush" live the Djukas, Bush Negroes who are descended

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first designed and manufactured in Brünn. Its name was formed by the combination of the first two letters of the towns of Brünn and Enfield, England, where the gun was produced after the British purchased manufacturing rights six years ago.

Mährisch-Ostrau, in Moravia, and Kladno, in Bohemia, also specialized in munitions manufacture. In addition, all these cities normally turn out a variety of other goods, ranging from pottery, glass, foodstuffs, and liquors to machine tools, engines, and chemicals.

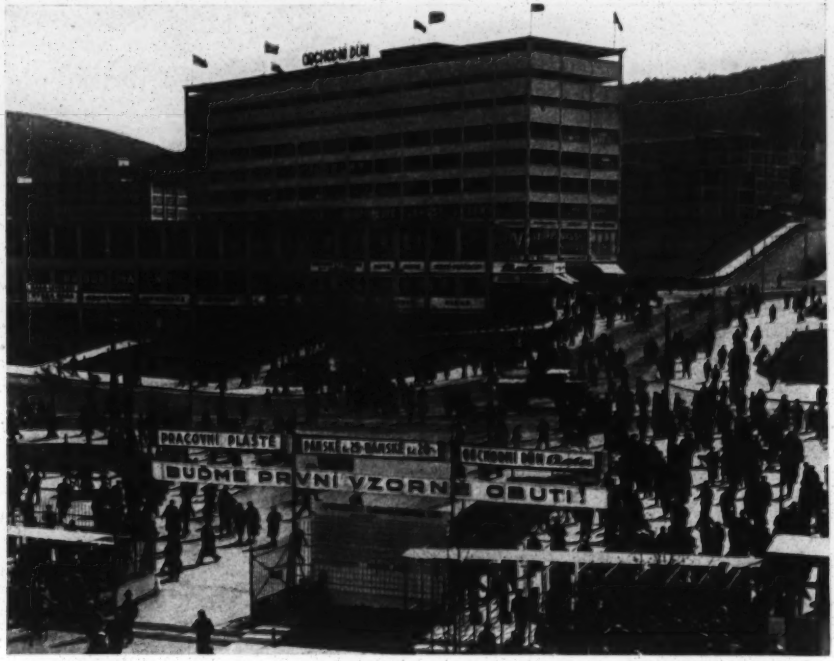
Especially important to Bohemia's normal economy is Pilsen, famous not only as the headquarters of the giant Skoda munitions works, but as the home of an internationally known beer.

Note: The Bohemia-Moravia region, once incorporated in the Czechoslovak Republic, may be located on the National Geographic Society's Map of Europe and the Near East, published as a supplement to the April, 1941, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

See the following articles in the *Magazine:* "Czechoslovaks, Yankees of Europe," August, 1938; "When Czechoslovakia Puts a Falcon Feather in its Hat," January, 1933; and "Hospitality of the Czechs," June, 1927. For conditions during the last World War, see "Bohemia and the Czechs," February, 1917.

See also the following GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS: "New Europe Map Shows Six Countries Enlarged," May 6, 1940; "In U. S. Czecho-Slovakia Marches On," November 20, 1939; "Table of Data on the Former Czecho-Slovakia," and "Three Thumb-Nail Portraits of the Late Czecho-Slovak States," April 3, 1939.

Bulletin No. 3, December 8, 1941.



Photograph by John Patric

ZLÍN, BUILT WITH BOOTS, BECAME SHOEMAKER TO EUROPE

Boots ranked with glass among Czechoslovakia's leading exports, building up the small city of Zlín to international importance. There the huge Bata shoe factory's eight-hour work day, beginning at 7 and ending at 5, allowed two hours for lunch. Workers used to go out for lunch through factory gates (foreground) where a large sign reminded them, "First of all, we must be properly shod." Above it, smaller ones advertised working clothes at the Bata department store, giving prices (men, 25 crowns; women, 20 crowns). The ten-story department store (labeled Obchodni Dum) near the gates contains dining rooms and beauty parlors. A movie house near by, patronized by workmen during their lunch period, was the largest in Central Europe, and had a uniform admission price of 10c. But the shoe industry has suffered from a leather shortage since Germany took over, and factory conditions have changed.

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Rangoon, "End of War" Seaport, Begins the Burma Road

HUNDREDS of Japanese who have spent a good part of their lives in Rangoon, Burma, operating their shops and industries or representing Japanese export houses, have recently returned to Japan by order of the Japanese Government.

They had settled in the city because it was the Burmese capital, with all the exotic overtones of the colorful Orient, and also the center of Burma's profitable commerce. It is the seaport for goods carried over the great Burma Road into China. The city is reached by ocean steamers sailing 21 miles up the palm-fringed Rangoon River, which is joined by canal to the broad Irrawaddy, the watery "road to Mandalay" described by Kipling.

Rice, Teakwood and Minerals Exported

Through this port passes nearly all of Burma's foreign trade. This includes the export of about two million tons of rice, raised largely on the muddy Irrawaddy River delta; the timber wealth of Burma's great teak forests to the north; and the country's mineral output of tin, tungsten, silver, and petroleum. About 1,500 steamers visit the port each year to collect cargoes of Burmese products.

In addition to its Japanese residents, Rangoon's population includes natives of India, attracted by high factory wages. The control of river traffic, building trades, and the best shops and bazaars is largely in the hands of Chinese, of whom there are 15,000 in Rangoon. The entire population totals more than 400,000.

Rangoon is visited by Buddhist pilgrims from all over Burma, from Thailand, Cambodia, and distant Korea. They come to Rangoon's great Shwe Dagon Pagoda, an ornate, bell-shaped building, whose gilded and jeweled spire towers 370 feet. The city also has other pagodas prized by Buddhists (illustration, next page).

Railroad Line to Highway Section of Burma Road

Rangoon nevertheless is a modern city with open squares, gardens, parks, a race track, and golf and yacht clubs. It is regularly laid out in broad paved streets, bordered by many buildings of European architecture. It has motor busses and electric street cars, and is well supplied with electric lighting. The University of Rangoon enrolls some 1,500 students.

From Rangoon a railway line extends north 720 miles to the town of Myitkyina, with one of its branches going to Lashio, where freight is transferred to trucks for transport over the highway section of the Burma Road to Chungking, China. Rangoon is the terminus of Burma's rail lines.

The city originally was a village named Dagun or Dagon, in honor of the great pagoda. In 1763, the town was rebuilt by the Burmese monarch and renamed Yan-Gon, "the End of War." The city began its real growth in size and importance after the British took Burma in 1852.

Note: The strategic situation of Rangoon on the newly completed river railway and highway route to China now famous as the "Burma Road" is described and mapped in "The Burma Road, Back Door to China," in the November, 1940, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

See the following issues of the *National Geographic Magazine* for further material on Burma: "Burma's Hills Flash with Color" (color insert), October, 1931; "Strange Tribes in the Shan States of Burma" (color insert), August, 1930; and "Working Teak in the Burma Forests," August, 1930.

The National Geographic Society's Map of Asia shows Rangoon in relation to the other cities of Burma, the railroads, and the Rangoon River.

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from African slaves brought to Paramaribo to work on sugar plantations. The slaves rebelled in the early eighteenth century, and many escaped from their owners to the jungles of the interior. After decades of guerrilla warfare, the black men agreed to make peace—on their own terms. Thus bush tribes won concessions which gave them the right to govern themselves. They also freed themselves from any obligation to pay taxes, but received an annual tribute in cash from the white governors of Surinam. Their chief whose authority they acknowledged was the "Granman."

Now the Bush Negroes are estimated to number 20,000. The population of Surinam by the latest census is about 156,000 in addition to that jungle group.

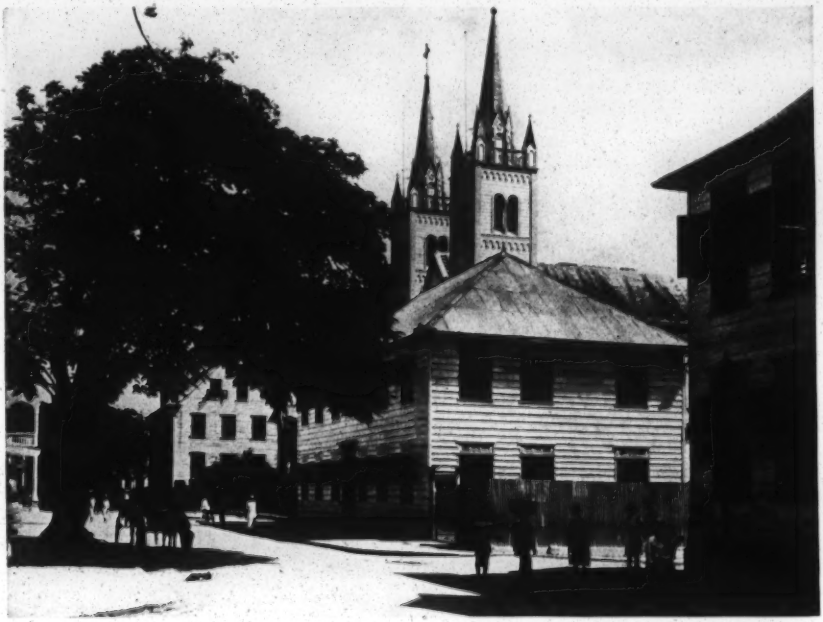
The conquest of the Netherlands by Germany in 1940 lessened Surinam's ties with the motherland and increased her commercial relationships with the United States. Air service is maintained between the country and the United States, while another line goes south from the Netherlands colony to Argentina.

Note: Surinam or Dutch Guiana can be located on the National Geographic Society's Map of South America, especially noteworthy because of its unique projection to reduce distortion.

See also the article "Skypaths Through Latin America," in the January, 1931, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine.*

Geographic School Bulletins containing articles on Surinam and other Netherlands possessions in the Western Hemisphere include: "Polyglot Paramaribo in Heart of South American 'Mud Puddle'," March 10, 1941; and "European Colonies Make Non-American Spots in the Americas," October 23, 1939.

Bulletin No. 4, December 8, 1941.



Photograph by Jacob Gayer

NEW ENGLAND TROOPS WOULD FEEL AT HOME IN THE PRIM SCENES OF PARAMARIBO

As dikes surround the sub-sea-level mud flats beyond Paramaribo and substantial Dutch-provincial architecture is the style of most of the city's architecture, Surinam's capital is quaintly reminiscent in spots of the Netherlands homeland itself. Steepled churches and clapboard houses have a surprisingly New England air that would make a visitor from the United States—except for the tropical climate—feel at home. Upstairs verandas built to project over the sidewalk (extreme left) create arcades protecting the passer-by from Paramaribo's steamy heat, and windows are equipped with heavy shutters. The basket balanced on the carrier's head (right of center, foreground) is typical of Surinam, where everything from lunch to baggage for a cross-country trip becomes a head-burden.

Photograph by Frank Outram

RANGOON MINGLES STREET CARS AND RICKSHAWS, WITH RUNNING WATER ON THE STREET CORNERS

Automobiles already outnumber rickshaws in this typical street scene of Burma's largest city, where the permanent population of almost a half-million is constantly increased by Buddhist pilgrims. For visitors and inhabitants alike, curb-service public hydrants are available for the perpetual laundering necessary in the white-clad tropics. Capital of a nation 85 per cent of whose 14 million people are Buddhist, Rangoon has numerous temples, or "pagodas," such as the Sule Pagoda gleaming in the background. Schools in Buddhist temples and monasteries give Burma a relatively high literacy.